



Quad Cities COVID-19 Coalition FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 2 2021

Current COVID-19 case count

Scott County – Total of 16,300

Total deaths in Scott County: 182

Rock Island County – 16 new cases since Monday; total of 12,261

Currently in hospital in Rock Island County: 28

Total deaths in Rock Island County: 294

Today's call

A video recording of today's media briefing can be found at

<https://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/covid19/news>

Way for people to get their second doses from RI County mass clinics

Remarks from Janet Hill, chief operating officer, Rock Island County Health Department

Today we gave almost 800 people their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. This is our third mass vaccination clinic at the Greater Quad City Auto Auction, and we've fine-tuned our process to get people in as quickly and efficiently as possible. This is a massive operation, and we couldn't do it without the dedicated work of our staff and volunteers. Helping our dedicated staff today are a contingent of Moline and Rock Island firefighters, the Rock Island County Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management Agency, nurses from UnityPoint-Trinity, and members of our Medical Reserve Corps.

Everyone today received their first dose of the Moderna vaccine. Supply of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine remains limited in our community and all over the country. Because of the short supply at this point, the CDC researched how long the second dose could be delayed so that as many people as possible can get the first dose to receive at least partial protection from the virus. Researchers have determined that 28 days is the minimum interval for the second dose for Moderna and 21 days for Pfizer and that people can wait up to 42 days for both vaccines.

To that point, we have devised a system that will allow people to get their second dose at our mass vaccination clinics without having to compete with people wanting their first dose. Both doses will be given at the same clinics. We still are limited to about 800 doses per clinic because we are sharing our vaccine allotment from the state with our partners at Community Health

Care, Jewel-Osco and Hy-Vee. Most weeks, we are receiving 1,600 doses, but we hope soon that the Illinois Department of Public Health will be able to give us more doses.

People seeking a first dose need to visit our Facebook page or website, richd.org, at 10 a.m. each Friday for a link to the first-dose clinics. A second link will be posted at 11 a.m. each Friday for those who need to second dose. The second dose might not be exactly 28 days later, but it will be within 42 days. This is the schedule through the end of March:

First dose given	First availability* for second dose and number of slots
Jan. 12	Feb. 9: 450 first dose slots and 350 second dose slots
Jan. 19	Feb. 16: 300 first dose slots and 500 second dose slots
Jan. 19	Feb. 23: 400 first dose slots and 350 second dose slots
Feb. 2	March 2: 300 first dose slots and 500 second dose slots
Feb. 9	March 9: 350 first dose slots and 450 second dose slots
Feb. 16	March 16: 500 first dose slots and 300 second dose slots
Feb. 28	March 28: 350 first dose slots and 450 second dose slots
March 2	March 30: 500 first dose slots and 300 second dose slots

*Can receive up to 42 days after second dose, per CDC

We understand that this system is not perfect, but until vaccine supply increases significantly, we, unfortunately, are forced to work in an imperfect system. We appreciate your patience and know we've asked for it a lot already. Please know we are doing the best we can to complete our mission of preventing disease, promoting wellness of mind and body, protecting public health and preparing for emergencies.

We are using an internet-based registration system to make this mass vaccination effort work as well as possible. We understand that our older residents might not have access to computers or the internet. We will have a solution to this problem to announce on Thursday. We are working out the final details now.

We must remind everyone that vaccine supply coming into the county remains low, but number of ways to be vaccinated is growing. Appointments through our partners also remain limited because of the small number of doses available

Here are the ways to register for vaccine in Rock Island County:

- Rock Island County Health Department: Link goes live at 10 a.m. every Friday for first does and a second link at 11 a.m. for second doses on our Facebook page and at our website: richd.org
- Hy-Vee: <https://www.hy-vee.com/my-pharmacy/covid-vaccine-consent>
- Walgreens: <https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>
- Jewel Osco: www.albertsons.com/covidclinic
- Community Health Care: Complete form on www.CHCQCA.org to be added to waitlist

Vaccine availability too low for public 65+ clinic next week

Remarks from Edward Rivers, director, Scott County Health Department

It has been seven weeks since we first received COVID-19 vaccine in Scott County. The Iowa Department of Public Health reports that more than 12,400 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered by Scott County providers since that time. Due to the time it takes to compile and publish the data, we believe this number is actually higher.

We are also officially 2 days into Phase 1B. The number of people eligible for vaccine in this phase is much larger than Phase 1A. As a consequence, the demand for vaccine far exceeds the supply we or any other community is receiving so far. We had 500 doses available for yesterday's clinic, for an estimated population of over 25,000. Although it was anticipated, the demand caused our registration process to experience difficulties and that caused much frustration. The enrollment process is now being evaluated and improved. We have a dedicated IT team at Scott County who are working to ensure our site can handle the traffic in future enrollments.

We will determine each Tuesday whether there will be a public 65+ clinic the next week. The defining factor will be the amount and type of vaccine we receive. If a clinic is scheduled, we will send information through our website, email listserv, social media pages, and local media. We will also give directions on how to enroll, and when. However, for the present, the amount of vaccine will remain very small, and the number of people trying to enroll very large. There will continue to be intense competition for appointments, and many will be disappointed. During this time, however, we expect vaccine also to be available to our healthcare partners for the 65+ population. How that vaccine will be provided will be determined by those medical providers.

Scott County Health Department WILL NOT be scheduling a 65+ public clinic next week, the week of February 8. We did not receive an allocation this week of the type of vaccine used at our clinic.

As a reminder, during Phase 1B, we are being asked by the Iowa Department of Public Health to split all vaccine we receive weekly between the 65+ age group and the priority groups in the five tiers. This week Scott County Health Department and Genesis Health System will begin vaccinating the PK-12 education staff in Scott County. This is quite an undertaking and will help support our schools, many of which will be returning full in person in the next couple of weeks.

Our staff has remained dedicated to serving our community during this pandemic, through all of the challenges, changes to guidance, and limited resources and supplies. A lot of the work we do doesn't make it to the front page of the newspaper or onto the 6pm news. There are hours spent listening and responding to the questions and concerns of our residents, planning meetings with our partners to create and update plans, and crafting messages and directions for the community even if the information we have to share isn't what they are hoping to hear.

We are committed to this effort and will continue to serve the public in the challenging days, weeks, and months to come.

More information

- www.TogetherQC.com
- coronavirus.iowa.gov
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=Rock%20Island>
- <https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/facilities/Pages/Covid19Response.aspx>
- <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/long-term-care-facility-outbreaks-covid-19>

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